

I claim:

1. A method for enabling the tracing of a computer connected to a data network, said computer having an actual virtual address when connected to said network, wherein said method comprises storing at least one authorized virtual address, comparing said actual virtual address with said at least one authorized virtual address and in case that said actual virtual address is not identical to an authorized virtual address, sending an electronic message to a predetermined virtual address, said electronic message containing said actual virtual address.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein

- said data network is the Internet, said virtual address is an IP address, and said electronic message is an e-mail, an SMS message, or a voice message, or
- said data network is a telephone network, said virtual address is a telephone number, and said electronic message is an SMS message or a voice message.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said electronic message is sent without indication thereof to the actual user of the computer.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said method comprises generating a unique ID identifying said computer and storing said unique ID in a data memory of said computer, wherein said electronic message also comprises said unique ID.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein said method further comprises after a predetermined number of start-ups of said computer or after a predetermined time sending an electronic message to a predetermined virtual address, said electronic message containing said actual virtual address.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said unique ID comprises identification for selected components of said computer.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein said method further comprises in case of said disagreement, encrypting preselected documents stored on said computer.

8. A computer program comprising program code performing the method according to claim 1 when said program is run on a computer.

9. A computer program according to claim 8, wherein said computer program starts automatically during start-up of said computer and causes for a limited time the indication of an optically insignificant icon on the display of said computer, said icon being substantially invisible for the untrained user, during which limited time, an alphanumerical code has to be entered through the keyboard of said computer or a specific pointer indication has to be performed on said user interface, wherein an e-mail is sent to a predetermined address if said alphanumeric code is not entered or said specific pointer indication is not performed, said sending of an e-mail is

performed without indication to the user of said computer, said e-mail comprising said actual IP address.

10. A computer program according to claim 8, wherein the computer program set-up menu of said computer program is only accessible after reading a data sequence from a hardware key.

11. A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method according to claim 1 when said computer program product is run on a computer.

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